

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mr. Robert L. Woodson, Jr. as  
"Citizen of the Year".

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unreservedly of themselves, their time and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert L. Woodson, Jr. is one such remarkable person who has earned the respect of the citizens of LaFollette and Campbell County, this Assembly, and the state of Tennessee for his numerous contributions to business and the community; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Mr. Woodson is a 1937 graduate of LaFollette High School and attended Tennessee Wesleyan College and the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, at the young age of 19, Mr. Woodson joined his father, Robert L. Woodson, Sr., in the family business and quickly demonstrated his affinity for managing a complex independent business; and

WHEREAS, adhering to his family's entrepreneurial spirit, Mr. Woodson opened the Circus Market in downtown LaFollette with his father in 1950 and Woodson's-Elza City Market in Oak Ridge with his wife, Ethel Sharp Woodson, in that same year; and

WHEREAS, ever successful in his entrepreneurial endeavors, Mr. Woodson opened yet another store with his wife in 1959, Woodson's Supermarket in LaFollette; and finally, in 1979, Mr. Woodson collaborated with his wife and his son, Robert L. Woodson, III, to open Woodson's Mall; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodson has revealed himself as a diligent upholder of the great volunteer tradition of the state of Tennessee by devoting many years of his life to the development and enhancement of the community he loves; and

WHEREAS, a sagacious leader with amazing skill, Mr. Woodson was instrumental in founding the LaFollette Chamber of Commerce and gave unselfishly of himself as the Chamber's first president; and

WHEREAS, an active and vital part of the community, Mr. Woodson helped to bring the Optimist Club to LaFollette, served on the Advisory Board of the Small Business Administration, was past chairman of the board of the LaFollette Housing Authority, and served on the Board of Trustees at Lincoln Memorial University in nearby Harrogate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodson continues to unselfishly devote himself to the public good with seats on numerous boards, including the LaFollette Electric and Water Department, the LaFollette Development Corporation, and the First National Bank of LaFollette; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodson has been a member and leader of the Boy Scouts of America for many years, serving on both the Cumberland Council in Kentucky and the Great Smoky Mountain Council in Knoxville and receiving the distinguished Silver Beaver Award for his extraordinary service; and

WHEREAS, his many successes aside, Mr. Woodson is most appreciative of the love and support he shared with his late wife, Ethel, and continues to share with their children, Robert, III and Harriet Woodson Hall; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodson is truly an outstanding individual and model Tennessean whose life serves as a shining example of the virtues of hard work and dedication; as a perfect example of a person totally committed to the highest ideals of public service, we wish to specially recognize Mr. Woodson as "Citizen of the Year"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we do hereby proclaim Mr. Robert L. Woodson, Jr., "Citizen of the Year" for a lifetime of meritorious service to LaFollette, Campbell County and our great state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.